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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-26 (Canceled)

27. (New) An apparatus for use in playing a game involving supporting elongated sticks, said apparatus comprising:

a main body member;

a plurality of arms received by said main body member and outwardly extending in a direction away from said main body member, said plurality of arms defining an outer arm area;

a plurality of legs received by said main body member and downwardly extending in a direction away from said main body member, said legs forming a base having a base footprint with a first defined area; and

wherein each arm of said plurality of arms having a first end received within said main body member and an opposed free end, each arm of said plurality of arms being substantially straight from said first end to said free end with a substantially uniform cross sectional shape.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said outer arm area is greater than said base footprint area.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said substantially uniform cross sectional shape is generally rectangular.

Preliminary Amendment  
Paul Wickens, Inventor  
Atty. Docket No. 8294-2  
Page 2 of 8

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said substantially uniform cross sectional shape is generally square.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said base footprint area is greater than said outer arm area.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein said substantially uniform cross sectional shape is generally rectangular.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein said substantially uniform cross sectional shape is generally square.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said main body member defines a plurality of apertures constructed and arranged for receipt of said arms.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein said apparatus has a central vertical axis and wherein each arm of said plurality of arms as received by its corresponding aperture of said plurality of apertures has an angle of inclination relative to said vertical axis.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein said angle of inclination is at least twenty degrees.

Preliminary Amendment  
Paul Wickens, Inventor  
Atty. Docket No. 8294-2  
Page 3 of 8

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein said main body member defines a plurality of apertures constructed and arranged for receipt of said legs.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein said apparatus has a central vertical axis and wherein each leg of said plurality of legs as received by its corresponding aperture of said plurality of apertures has an angle of inclination relative to said vertical axis.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein said angle of inclination is at least twenty degrees.

40. (New) An apparatus for use in playing a game involving supporting elongated sticks, said apparatus comprising:

a main body member;

a plurality of rigid arms received by said main body member and outwardly extending in a direction away from said main body member, said plurality of rigid arms defining an outer arm area;

a plurality of rigid legs received by said main body member and downwardly extending in a direction away from said main body member, said plurality of rigid legs forming a base having a base footprint with a first defined area; and

wherein each arm of said plurality of arms having a first end received within said main body member and an opposed free end, each arm of said plurality of arms being substantially straight from said first end to said free end.

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said outer arm area is greater than said base footprint area.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 41 wherein each arm of said plurality of arms has a substantially uniform cross sectional shape.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said base footprint area is greater than said outer arm area.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein each arm of said plurality of arms having a substantially uniform cross sectional shape.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said main body member defines a plurality of apertures constructed and arranged for receipt of said arms.

46. (New) The apparatus of claim 45 wherein said apparatus has a central vertical axis and wherein each arm of said plurality of arms as received by its corresponding aperture of said plurality of apertures has an angle of inclination relative to said vertical axis of at least twenty degrees.

47. (New) The apparatus of claim 40 wherein said main body member defines a plurality of apertures constructed and arranged for receipt of said legs.

48. (New) The apparatus of claim 47 wherein said apparatus has a central vertical axis and wherein each leg of said plurality of legs as received by its corresponding aperture of said plurality of apertures has an angle of inclination relative to said vertical axis of at least twenty degrees.

49. (New) An apparatus for use in playing a game involving supporting elongated sticks, said apparatus comprising:

- a substantially solid main body member having a uniform geometric shape;

- a plurality of arms received by said main body member and outwardly extending in a direction away from said main body member;

- a plurality of legs received by said main body member and downwardly extending in a direction away from said main body member, said legs forming a base; and

- wherein each arm of said plurality of arms having a first end received within said main body member and an opposed free end, each arm of said plurality of arms being substantially straight from said first end to said free end.

50. (New) The apparatus of claim 49 wherein said uniform geometric shape is a sphere.

51. (New) The apparatus of claim 49 wherein said uniform geometric shape is a rectangular box.

52. (New) The apparatus of claim 49 wherein said uniform geometric shape is a cylinder.

53. (New) The apparatus of claim 49 wherein said plurality of arms defining an outer arm area and said base formed by said plurality of legs having a base footprint with a first defined area.

54. (New) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said outer arm area is greater than said base footprint area.

55. (New) The apparatus of claim 54 wherein each arm of said plurality of arms having a substantially uniform cross sectional shape.

Preliminary Amendment  
Paul Wickens, Inventor  
Atty. Docket No. 8294-2  
Page 7 of 8